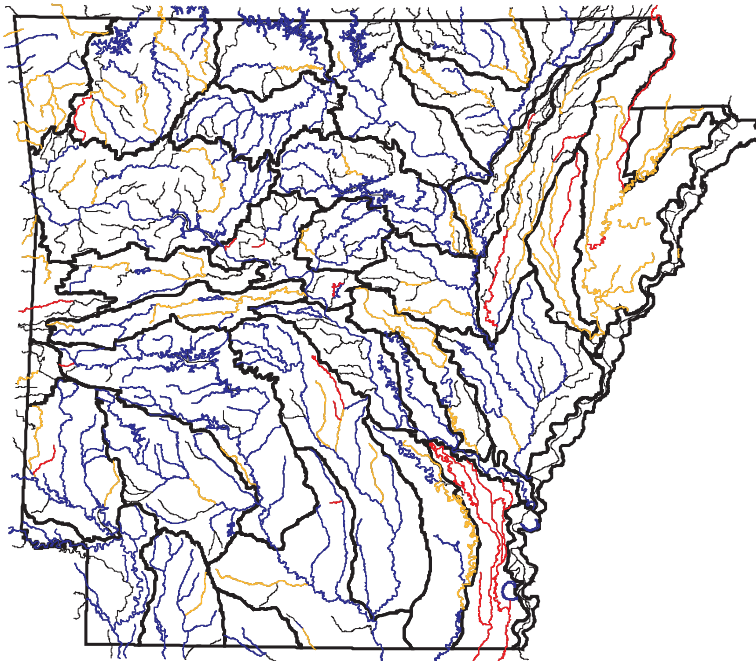


Arkansas



- Fully Supporting
- Partially Supporting
- Not Supporting
- Not Assessed
- Basin Boundaries
(USGS 6-Digit Hydrologic Unit)

This map depicts aquatic life use support status.

For a copy of the Arkansas 1996 305(b) report, contact:

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Surface Water Quality

The Arkansas Department of Pollution Control and Ecology (DPCE) reported that 62% of their surveyed rivers and streams and 100% of their surveyed lake acres have good water quality that fully supports aquatic life uses. Good water quality also fully supports swimming use in 80% of the surveyed river miles and 100% of the surveyed lake acres. Siltation and turbidity are the most frequently

identified pollutants impairing Arkansas' rivers and streams, followed by bacteria and nutrients. Agriculture is the leading source of pollution in the State's rivers and streams and has been identified as a source of pollution in four lakes. Municipal wastewater treatment plants, mining, and forestry also impact rivers and streams. Arkansas has limited data on the extent of pollution in lakes.

Special State concerns include the protection of natural wetlands by mechanisms other than discharge permits and the development of more effective methods to identify nonpoint source impacts. Arkansas is also concerned about impacts from the expansion of confined animal production operations and major sources of turbidity and silt including road construction, road maintenance, riparian land clearing, streambed gravel removal, and urban construction.

Ground Water Quality

Nitrate contamination was detected in some domestic wells sampled in portions of the State undergoing rapid expansion of poultry and livestock operations, including northwest Arkansas, the Arkansas River Valley, and southwest Arkansas. In northwest Arkansas, nitrate contamination was documented in 5% to 7% of the domestic wells sampled. Wells sampled in pristine areas of northwest Arkansas were not contaminated.

Programs to Restore Water Quality







Arkansas has focused nonpoint source management efforts on controlling waste from confined animal production operations. Arkansas utilizes education, technical assistance, financial assistance, and voluntary and regulatory activities to control nonpoint source pollution from poultry, swine, and dairy operations. Liquid waste systems are regulated by permit and dry waste systems are controlled by voluntary implementation of BMPs in targeted watersheds. Water quality is monitored during watershed projects to evaluate the effectiveness of the BMPs.

Programs to Assess Water Quality

Arkansas classifies its water resources by ecoregion with similar physical, chemical, and biological characteristics. There are six ecoregions including the Delta, Gulf Coastal, Ouchita Mountain, Arkansas River Valley, Boston Mountain, and Ozark Mountain Regions. By classifying water resources in this manner, Arkansas can identify the most common land uses within each region and address the issues that threaten the water quality.

The State has increased surface water and ground water monitoring to determine the fate of animal waste applied to pastures. Arkansas also conducted 10 water quality surveys in watersheds throughout the State to determine point and non-point sources of pollution impacting water quality.

Individual Use Support in Arkansas

Designated Use ^a	Percent					
	Good (Fully Supporting)	Good (Threatened)	Fair (Partially Supporting)	Poor (Not Supporting)	Poor (Not Attainable)	
Rivers and Streams (Total Miles = 87,617) ^b						
	Total Miles Surveyed	62				
	8,668		-	28	10	0
	96					
	8,668		-	4	<1	0
	80					
	7,479		-	9	11	0
Lakes (Total Acres = 514,245)						
	Total Acres Surveyed	100				
	356,254		0	0	0	0
	92					
	356,254		0	8	0	0
	100					
	356,254		0	0	0	0

- Not reported in a quantifiable format or unknown.

^a A subset of Arkansas' designated uses appear in this figure. Refer to the State's 305(b) report for a full description of the State's uses.

^b Includes nonperennial streams that dry up and do not flow all year.

Note: Figures may not add to 100% due to rounding.